

FLYING SAUCER DIGEST

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UNITED AERIAL PHENOMENA AGENCY

DIGEST

ABOUT OUR COVER

In celebration of FSD's 50th anniversary next year, here is another of our early covers featuring the great artwork of Ron Pelger. Stay tuned for more of the same in coming issues as we countdown to the big 50.

1952 - UFO LANDS NEAR PITTSBURGH, KANSAS

A flying saucer in which occupants were observed was reported to have landed briefly northeast of Pittsburgh in August 1952. Observing the saucer was Bill Squire, an entertainer on station KOAM, Pittsburgh.

Squire said he observed the saucer parked in a field between Pittsburgh and Yale. He described the saucer as about 75 feet in diameter and resting in a pasture. He observed it at about 100 feet away. He saw occupants moving around in the object and a bluish light from within.

The object resembled two large saucers conforming somewhat to a disk. At the right rear where the two saucers would have been joined were a series of propellers, placed as closely as possible.

Squire said he stopped his car to observe more closely and when he got out of the car, the object took to the air straight up at a rapid speed. After the object was at conventional altitude, it sped away. There was no smoke or exhaust fumes evident, the radio man reported. Source: Hutchinson, KS News Herald, August 26, 1952 via Martin Piechota.

PENNSYLVANIA UFO CHANGES SHAPE

A Pennsylvania witness at Rochester reported watching a cigar-shaped UFO that appeared to morph in shape, according to testimony in the MUFON witness reporting database.

The witness moved outside into the backyard at 6:34 p.m. on June 14, 2016, when she heard her husband calling out loud that he was seeing a UFO. "I came outside, but it had gone behind the big trees behind our house," the witness stated. "We waited two-to-three minutes and then we could see it again.

"It was a white cigar shape, with left end round and the right end triangle shape - like a Q-tip, but bigger ends. It was horizontal. Going straight really slow, then stopped and hovered for a couple minutes, then moved again, hovered etc. It appeared to be shapeshifting or morphing and changing shapes. It would appear round, then elongated, then like a triangle. A large jumbo jet flew by the UFO and it appeared slightly bigger than a jet, but I don't know if it's because it was closer than the plane, therefore it looked bigger. At one point the triangle shape to the right moved away from the object - maybe 100-200 feet - and disappeared. It was too far away to guess the actual size, but it appeared big, at least 100 feet long.

"It looked too big to be a drone or helium balloons. Its weird shapeshifting ruled out it being a blimp. It was a windy day but stayed stationary when it stopped to hover. It was solid white and changing shape either from rotating and showing different sides or actual morphing. It is hard to explain the shape. The sun was behind me and it was not reflecting sunlight on the surface. If I held my arm straight out and compared it to my thumb, it was about one-inch long using my thumb as a reference. As wide as my thumb."

The witness's husband retrieved binoculars. "But the object was too far away and a little blurry from the morphing changing shapes to make out more details. No lights. Was heading south towards the Ohio River and Pittsburgh, PA. I watched it for about 10 minutes until it moved south and my view was obscured by more big trees. I live about 10 blocks or one mile from the confluence of the Ohio River and Beaver River." Source: Roger Marsh, "Open Minds" June 28, 2016.

RELIVE THE SAUCER SAGA

In celebration of our upcoming 50th anniversary, we've reissued another of our early booklets covering the UFO scene. *The Saucer Saga* was first published in 1992 and was the third in a series looking at the history of the UFO phenomenon from ancient times up to the modern era of organized UFO research. *Saga* covers the years from 1953 to 1960 and features many of the classic cases and encounters from those seminal years of the "Saucer Saga." There are also dozens of other outstanding and equally unexplained cases that have been virtually lost to history, as well as illustrative art by Ron Pelger and the late Bunny Owens.

The Saucer Saga is now in stock and ready for shipment. You can add this handsome publication to your collection by sending a check for \$12.00 made payable to Rick Hilberg at 377 Race St. Berea, Ohio 44017.

ARGENTINA WINDS DOWN ITS UFO UNIT

LIMA, PERU – Even at the best of times, Argentina's former president Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner was controversial.

Accused of populism, corruption, mismanaging the economy and un-statesmanlike mood swings, she also, apparently, had an interest in extraterrestrial life.

In fact, in May 2011, she launched a new agency within Argentina's air force specifically to research reports of UFOs on national territory.

Called the Commission for the Study of Aero-spatial Phenomena, or CAFAE in Spanish, it included both military and civilian experts and aimed to get to the bottom of a spate of sightings across the South American nation.

Amid great fanfare, Brig. Ernesto Omar Paris, of the Argentine air force, said at the time: "This commission will carry out a scientific study of aero-spatial phenomena. With this achievement, we have reached an important goal for our institution".

Now that Fernandez de Kirchner's leftist administration has made way for new president Mauricio Macri's center-right government, many of her pet projects are being wound down.

Some are even being investigated to see how they spent the public funds they were assigned.

That includes CEFAE, whose track record of following through on its stated purpose appears underwhelming, to say the least.

According to its final – and only – report, which has just been published, the agency investigated just 10 reports of UFOs during its nearly five years of activity.

The meager 12-page report found that nine of the 10 UFO sightings reported were in fact a soccer ball, a helicopter, a bird, the red lights on top of an antenna, the planet Jupiter, the moon, a star, an airplane and, in one bizarre case, a combination of a satellite, a Russian part of NASA's International Space Station and a star.

In the 10th case, the report noted" "Unfortunately, it has not been resolved due to the witness not providing any photo or video to accompany their report."

The report also notes drily: "Although the totality of the cases analyzed here have turned out to be compatible with causes of an unknown origin, they nevertheless constitute very valuable testimony from the point of UFO research, especially in corroborating the existence of an overwhelming percentage of IFOs (Identified Flying Objects) that turn out to be from honest but erroneous interpretations, in which ordinary objects have been confused with extraordinary ones." Source: Simeon Tegel, *Toronto Star* February 27, 2016 via Gene Duplantier.

UFOs LIKE QUEBEC - by Terry Davidson

Quebecers are seeing things.

And what they are seeing – more than anyone else in Canada, apparently – are unidentified flying objects.

Strange skyward spheres, blinking lights in the firmament, and luminous orbs that vanish as quickly as they appear were just some of the weird sightings reported by Canadians last year and detailed in Ufology Research's 2015 Canadian UFO Survey.

The Winnipeg group's annual report calls Canada "a nation rich in storytelling," but stresses that studying reports of sightings means combining witness accounts with the search for "objective truth."

Is it something manmade?

Is it a figment of one's imagination?

Is it driven by contemporary culture's storytelling about strange celestial sightings?

Or could it be, the report asks, "another form of life we cannot begin to understand?"

Quebec accounted for 35% of all reported sightings in Canada last year – a big spike for a province sitting between 5% and 15% in previous years.

The Gate to Strange Phenomena is your entrance into the world of the paranormal. Each issue contains intriguing factual articles and an assortment of scientific occult related news clippings from around the world. A sample copy can be obtained by mailing \$2.00 to P.O. Box 43516, Richmond Heights, OH 44143.

"We wish we knew exactly what is going on," said Ufology Research's Chris Rutkowski. "There is some suggestion that maybe there was a media push in Quebec last year that resulted in more people looking up into the sky."

There were 1,267 reported sightings in Canada last year, the second-highest total in three decades, the reports says.

As for cities, there were 97 reports in Montreal, followed by 78 in Toronto and 69 in Vancouver. Edmonton was a distant fourth with just 36 sightings.

Over the years, most sightings have occurred between 9 and 11 p.m.

Last year, they lasted an average of 16 minutes. The most common descriptions from survey respondents were "starlike" objects, distant lights, and "simple lights in the sky."

The year with the most UFO reports was 2012, with 1,981.

It also happened to be the year when the Mayan calendar predicted the world would end.

The report says sightings of "Hollywood-style flying saucers are, in reality, relatively uncommon in UFO reports."

But they do exist.

In May 2015, a "metallic sphere descended from high in the sky," in Drummondville, Que., and came close enough for the witness to see "the reflection of the ground on its surface," the report says.

A month before that, a witness in Brantford claims to have spotted a "large object that was a cross between a boomerang and egg" above the tree line.

It displayed "flashing white lights...and two stripes of blue light running...along its underbelly."

The report suggests some possible explanations for the sightings spike: more secret military flights, it's easier to report sightings, and the lousy economy led "to an increased desire by some people to look skyward for assistance." Source: "24 hrs", Toronto April 19, 2016 via Gene Duplantier.

RETURN OF A "CLASSIC"

With FSD's 50th anniversary rapidly approaching, we're going to be celebrating by publishing some special things in the months ahead. The first of which is a reprint of FSD's special publication *Flying Saucer Classics* from 1968 which is now in stock and ready to ship. *Classics* consists of 21 classic UFO cases from the early days of the enigma, and each one is illustrated by FSD's then co-editor and artist Ron Pelger. At its founding back in 1967 FSD billed itself as "the illustrated UFO magazine," and Ron's great artwork filled each and every issue.

We are sure that you will want this handsome publication for your collection, and have priced it an affordable \$7.00 which includes shipping and postage. Order *Flying Saucer Classics* by sending a check made payable to Rick Hilberg at 377 Race St. Berea, Ohio 44017.

LOW LEVEL CIGAR IN MISSISSIPPI

A Mississippi witness at Corinth reported watching a white, cigar-shaped UFO that appeared to be spinning and hovering at altitudes under 500 feet, according to testimony in the MUFON witness reporting database.

The witness was driving home from work westbound along Highway 72 at 11 a.m. on May 13, 2016, when the incident occurred. "As I approached CR 735 to make a right turn I noticed a hyper white object in the sky," the witness stated. "I pulled my car over and got out to observe it. The sky was almost perfectly clear with a few light sparse clouds. The object stood out."

"I stood perfectly still and observed a cylindrical object with rounded corners (tic tac shape) spinning slowly. It widened as the sides faced me and dimmed as the edges faced me. I moved so that the object was sitting directly above a power pole. This let me see that it was perfectly still while spinning on its horizontal axis. It remained locked on its position for over three minutes and then slowly descended while moving north. It remained spinning without ever slowing or speeding up. It continued to descend until it dipped below the tree line and I lost sight of it."

The witness took three images, but these were not included with the original report, which was filed on May 13, 2016. None show the object as it was hard to see the screen to aim the shot while the sun was

shining on it. The object seemed to spin at about 50-60 rpm which is why the pictures may not have captured it as it was turning and not very visible as the edges faced me." Source: Roger Marsh, "Open Minds" May 26, 2016.

THE TARIJA, BOLIVIA UFO CRASH OF 1978 – by Scott Corrales

38 years after a metallic and incandescent object fell at the border between Bolivia and Argentina, there are enduring mysteries about what took place on May 6, 1978.

Elias Vacaflor, a witness to the events 38 years ago, says that NASA was on the scene and did not say a word about what was taken away after the UFO crash. According to the former congressman, letters were sent to the government – both to the Ministry of Defense and the Ministry of Foreign Relations, without replies having ever been received. They only agreed that it was a "subject that did not give rise to any concerns."

"I remember that the sky lit up in an unusual way due to the flying of an object resembling a cylinder flying from northwest to southeast," says Vacaflor.

Residents of Mecoya, Mecoyita, Sidras, La Merced and other communities surrounding the crash also witnessed the object and heard the subsequent explosion. Residents of Argentina, the neighboring country, also felt it, and the press offered information on the extraordinary event. The *Clarín* newspaper ran the headline "UFO Found on the Border Between Argentina and Bolivia."

Journalist Juan Antonio Abarzua, who worked for *El Tribuno de Salta* at the time, said that NASA helicopters arrived at the crash site.

Abarzua, who formed part of that newspaper's visit to the scene, coincided with another team headed by physicist Orlando Bravo. He says that upon reaching the crash site, they found a scene of total destruction: a mountain – Cerro El Salle – had been destroyed, leaving a furrowed crater measuring 1,500 meters long, 800 meters wide and 50 meters deep (4920 ft. x 2600 ft. x 160 ft.).

Residents of Mecoya had already told them that the "gringos had taken away" the remains of whatever had fallen there. Source: "Inexplicata", May 9, 2016.

FORTEAN FLASHES

HAIRY CREATURES SPOTTED NEAR FAIRCHANCE, PA – by Jim Brown

I received a phone call on the morning of 5/11/2016 reporting an incident that involved two "large hairy animals" on Mud Pike in Fayette County, Pa. This report covers the facts as reported in that case. (Witnesses have requested to remain anonymous, name and address withheld) There were two witnesses in the vehicle, both interviewed separately and details are in agreement with each other. Weather conditions – Pouring rain, fog, temperature about 52 degrees F. Observations occurred from inside the vehicle that was involved in the incident. Date / Time – May 10, 2016, 11 p.m.

The following summary is based on both initial phone interview and personal interview with each witness. The witnesses were returning from visiting family on Chestnut Ridge on their way home. About half way down Mud Pike the driver saw what appeared to be a large hairy animal cross the road walking upright. He did not see it very clearly and could not rule out a bear walking on hind legs. But it did get his attention and he slowed to a crawl as he passed the area where he saw it. Using a flashlight, both witnesses were trying to catch a glimpse of it in the woods below. They did not see that creature again.

Suddenly a second creature came from the bank on the left into the path of their car about 20 feet ahead. The driver immediately slammed on his brakes and stopped with the creature clearly visible in the headlights about 10 – 15 feet in front of the car. Neither witness had a camera so no photos were obtained. I asked them to describe the creature. It was about 7 feet high, standing upright on two legs with arms well below the hips. It stared directly at the car, eyes glowing bright red. It was covered head to toe with long, black or very dark hair. The hair was so long that no facial features besides the eyes could be seen.

The body also was covered to the point that no sexual features could be determined. Also noted were the palms of its hands which were hairless and black. No claws were seen. Feet were not seen as at the angle of the view the hood of the car blocked the ability to see the ground this close of a distance. No smells

or sounds were noted, however the car windows were up and the rain was beating down hard. It would have been difficult to hear or smell anything under those conditions.

The driver had stopped the car and the creature froze watching them for a few seconds. At that point the driver put the car in reverse and slowly started to back up. The creature took a couple steps toward the car keeping about the same distance away as before. The driver again stopped the car and the creature did likewise. After a short time, the driver put the car in low and began creeping toward the creature. The creature stood still and did not move from the spot where it stopped.

It did put its arms forward as if to protect itself. The car continued to move forward very slowly to the point where both occupants could feel the car make contact with the creature. It put its arms out and placed its hands on the front of the car, with the bumper against its legs. The driver stopped again and did not try to force his way through. The driver said he was ready to shift to reverse again and "get the hell out of there." It was at that point the creature removed its hands from the car, took about one step forward then proceeded to walk into the woods below the road. That was the last it was seen. The witnesses went home and I was contacted the next day via my website reporting form.

I followed up and did a personal interview on 5/11/2016. The above information was obtained at that time. I also examined the car for any evidence of contact. None as found. The car was also checked using UV/IR light for evidence of hand prints or skin oils where the creature is alleged to have been in contact. Nothing was found, however it must also be noted that they drove home about 7 miles in driving rain. It is possible any residue could have been washed off. I also went to the area on Mud Pike where the creature was seen in an attempt to find any tracks or other evidence however nothing was found. Much gravel and other debris was washed into the road from the heavy rain so I would expect any such evidence, if it existed, was destroyed.

My impression of both witnesses is that they seem credible. I detected no sign they were seeing notoriety or wanted publicity. Both gave the same impression of the event; frightening yet both wanted answers to what they experienced. Source: "Stan Gordon's UFO Anomalies Zone" May 12, 2016.

NOVEMBER 1962 – PEBBLES RAIN DOWN ON CALIFORNIA HOUSE

Soon after the W. M. Lowe family moved into a house in Big Bear Lake, Calif., it began to be pelted with pebbles from the sky – or somewhere.

The pelting has been going on for months. Nobody could find out where the pebbles were coming from or why. It was spooky for the Lowes. On Halloween night they gave up the ghost and moved out.

"The rocks were falling from all directions," they said. About four times a week – at all hours of the day and night – rocks up to four inches long would rain on the house and an area of about two city blocks.

Lowe called the sheriff, who sent investigators, who figured somebody had it in for the Lowes. But if it's somebody, the deputies haven't been able to catch them. They've been on the spot, too, for a rock dented the hood of a patrol car and another whistled past a deputy's car.

Two window panes in the house were broken and one of the Lowe children was hit. The house next door also suffered broken window panes.

Lowe's theory: "I think it might be the wind blowing off that rocky ridge a tenth of a mile away – the closest hill. I've seen pine needles streaming past at treetop level when rocks fell."

Since the Lowes moved out, three young men have moved in. And, says the sheriff's office, the rocks continue to fall. Source: Cleveland Plain Dealer November 10, 1962.

ICE FALL DAMAGES CAR IN PENNSYLVANIA

This is the type of insurance claim McCafferty Kia of Mechanicsburg never had to file before, dealership manager Brenda Webber said.

At about 4:15 p.m. Friday, March 25, a chunk of ice fell from the sky and smashed through the windshield of a 2016 Kia Soul parked on the dealership parking lot at 6320 Carlisle Pike in Hampden Township, Webber said. A salesperson was standing six cars away from the SUV when the ice smashed through the windshield and destroyed the steering column, she said. It sounded like a bomb went off, she said.

Webber said the chunk of ice might have fallen from the wing of an overpassing plane. Police are investigating the incident. Source: Harrisburg Patriot News, March 25, 2016 via Martin Piechota.